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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

FODSTAD et al.

Examiner:

Davis, M.

Serial No.:

09/331,376

Group Art Unit:

1642

Filed:

June 18, 1999

Docket No.:

7885.65USWO

Title:

METHOD FOR CHARACTERIZATION OF ABNORMAL CELLS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

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1 hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By: Holanda Hay Yolanda Gray

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 12, 2000, with the time for response extended with a two month extension of time to May 12, 2001, please amend the aforementioned patent application as indicated herein.

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows. In accordance with rule changes to 37 C.F.R. §1.121, a clean version of the amended claims is presented below. In addition, enclosed herewith is an attachment of a marked up copy with the revisions to the claims shown.

1. (Amended) Method to detect and phenotype target cells in cell suspensions by using particles coated with antibodies directed against antigenic determinants/receptors expressed on the target cells, except when the target cells are malignant and normal haematopoietic and lymphatic cells, wherein 2 to 6 antibodies, each conjugated to a particle, wherein the particle is a fluorescent or dyed particle, are incubated under gentle rotation for about 5 minutes to about 2 hours with cell suspensions containing the target cells at 0°C to 25°C, followed by an enrichment

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